

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 00651 011121Z

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ACTION AF-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 EB-05 DRC-01 RSC-01 /019 W

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R 010900Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7770

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 651

EO 11652: NA

SUBJECT: TRADE PROMOTION: VOLTAN INTEREST IN SOLAR
AND WIND ENERGY

1. GOUV OFFICE DE PROMOTION DE L'ENTREPRISE VOLTAIQUE (OPEV) HAS EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN CONTACTING US MANUFACTURERS OF SOLAR OR WIND-POWER ENERGY CONVERSION UNITS CAPABLE OF OPERATING SMALL PUMPS, MOTORS, GENERATORS, ETC. OPEV IS SEEKING FIRMS WHICH CAN PRODUCE DEPENDABLE SMALL-SCALE UNITS (SUITABLE FOR VILLAGE OR FARM), NOT REQUIRING COMPLICATED MAINTENANCE.

2. GOUV'S INTEREST IN OTHER FORMS ENERGY STEMS FROM FACT THAT COUNTRY HAS NO PROVEN PETROLEUM DEPOSITS AND LACKS HYDROELECTRIC POSSIBILITIES. SINCE FIRST OF YEAR, PRICES ON REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS HAVE JUMPED 40 PERCENT AS RESULT OF ENERGY CRISIS. IN THIS CONTEXT, GOUV SEARCH FOR ALTERNATE ENERGY SOURCES APPEARS HAVE MERIT.

3. OPEV WOULD LIKE TO SET UP FACTORY TO MANUFACTURE OR ASSEMBLE UNITS, UNDER EITHER LICENSING OR PARTNERSHIP BASIS. KEY, OF COURSE, IS AVAILABILITY NON-SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY WHICH COULD BE TRANSPLANTED TO LOCAL AFRICAN SCENE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. WOULD APPRECIATE USDOC'S ASSISTANCE IN PASSING THIS TRADEOP TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN FIRMS. AS FIRST STEP, COMPANIES SHOULD WRITE

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PAGE 02 OUAGAD 00651 011121Z

CAN FIRMS. AS FIRST STEP, COMPANIES SHOULD WRITE

DIRECTLY TO EMBASSY (B.P. 35, OUAGADOUGOU, UPPER VOLTA,
ATTN: ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER) AND ENCLOSE SUITABLE
LITERATURE. INFORMATION ON PRICES WOULD BE ESPECIALLY
HELPFUL. JOHNSON

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NNN

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